

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PM-05 NSC-05  
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P 051646Z APR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY MONROVIA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8847

C O N F I D E N T I A L MONROVIA 2506

DEPT PLEASE PASS NSC FOR BREZINSKI AND RICHARDSON

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: OVIP (CARTER, JIMMY)  
SUBJECT: PRESIDENT CARTER'S VISIT TO LIBERIA

SUMMARY. IN PREPARATION FOR PRESIDENT CARTER'S VISIT HERE, THE GOL PREPARED A MEMORANDUM ANALYZING US/GOL RELATIONS WITH EMPHASIS ON ASSISTANCE. WHILE AT TIMES SELF-SERVING AND AT FIRST BLUSH WITH SOME INACCURACIES, THE DOCUMENT GIVES INSIGHT INTO THE DIRECTIONS FUTURE ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO LIBERIA MIGHT TAKE. AS AGREED BETWEEN MR. BREZINSKI (WHO WAS FURNISHED A COPY) AND AMBASSADOR CARTER, WE WILL POUCH THE MEMO TO THE DEPARTMENT BY AIRGRAM ALONG WITH OUR COMMENTS. IN THE MEANTIME, HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MEMORANDUM ARE AS FOLLOWS:

1. AS IT HAS DONE OFTEN IN THE PAST, THE GOL QUESTIONS THE VALUE TO LIBERIA OF OUR "CLOSE" AND "SPECIAL" TIES. THE HEART OF ITS MESSAGE IS AS FOLLOWS: "ONE WOULD THINK THAT A COUNTRY 130 YEARS OLD WITH A FRIEND HAVING MEANS SUCH AS THE UNITED STATES SHOULD BE FAR MORE ADVANCED THAN SHE IS TODAY." PARTICULARLY GIVEN QUESTIONS BEING RAISED BY LIBERIAN YOUTH, THE MEMO RECOGNIZES THAT THE PACE OF MORE EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION OF RESOURCES IS NOT FAST ENOUGH. ECHOING WHAT  
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PRESIDENT TOLBERT HAS OFTEN TOLD US IS HIS CENTRAL PROBLEM, (HE MEMO SAYS LIBERIA MUST ACCELERATE ITS ECONOMIC GROWTH IN ORDER TO COME INTO THE MAIN STREAM OF 20TH CENTURY DEVELOPMENT. THIS DEVELOPMENT NEEDS "U.S. ASSISTANCE WITH IMPACT."

2. SUMMARIZING LIBERIA'S FIRST DEVELOPMENT PLAN

(1976-1980), THE MEMO PINPOINTS A NUMBER OF CONSTRAINTS OVER WHICH THE USG HAS SIGNIFICANT INFLUENCE. THESE INCLUDE WORLD INFLATION AND RECESSION AND THE DEPRECIATION OF THE DOLLAR. THE MEMO CALLS ON THE USG TO ACCELERATE EFFORTS TO REMOVE THESE CONSTRAINTS.

3. MOVING ON TO SPECIFIC PROPOSALS FOR U.S. ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE, THE MEMO HIGHLIGHTS THE FOLLOWING AREAS:

A. ASSISTANCE TO THE NEWLY-ESTABLISHED AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT BANK.

B. ASSISTANCE TO THE GOL'S TREE CROP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM.

C. EXPANSION OF THE HEALTH OUTREACH PROGRAM WHICH THE USG IS CURRENTLY ASSISTING IN CERTAIN PILOT AREAS.

D. SPECIAL U.S. ASSISTANCE TOWARD PLANNED TARGETS FOR TECHNICAL AND VOCATIONAL TRAINING.

E. "SPECIAL CONSIDERATION OUTSIDE NORMAL AID ARRANGEMENTS" TO ASSIST IN LOW-COST HOUSING.

F. ESTABLISHMENT IN LIBERIA OF A PROGRAM TO ERADICATE ONCHOCERCIASIS.

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G. EXTENSION OF ASSISTANCE TO THE PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION INSTITUTE (THIS PROGRAM IS IN ITS TERMINATION PHASE).

4. THE REPORT CONCLUDES WITH THREE ANNEXES DETAILING REQUESTS FOR U.S. ASSISTANCE, A SUMMARY OF U.S. AID FOR THE YEARS 76, 77, AND 78, AND A DETAILED DISCUSSION OF ROAD NETWORK DEVELOPMENT.

CARTER

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Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014